

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 A-01 OC-06

CPR-01 SY-05 USSS-00 NSC-05 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 INRE-00 /055 W

----- 030545

O 071806Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8517

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 19759

BRUSSELS FOR S/S

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SECETARY'S VISIT TO LONDON, DECEMBER 10-12

1. MRS. THATCHER'S OFFICE HAS CALLED THE EMBASSY REQUESTING AN APPOINTMENT FOR MRS. THATCHER TO MEET WITH THE SECRETARY ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON PRIOR TO THE SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH CROSLAND AT THE FCO. THIS IS THE ONLY TIME DURING THE PERIOD OF THE SECRETARY'S VISIT TO LONDON THAT SHE HAS FREE. SHE WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR EVEN A FEW MINUTES, WOULD COME TO CLARIDGES, AND WOULD BRING JOHN DAVIES, THE NEW CONSERVATIVE SHADOW FOREIGN SECRETARY, WITH HER.

2. TED HEATH'S SECRETARY HAS ALSO CONTACTED THE EMBASSY TO INQUIRE WHETHER THERE HAS BEEN ANY RESPONSE TO HEATH'S REQUEST TO MEET WITH THE SECRETARY ON FRIDAY. HE TOO IS AVAILABLE ONLY BEFORE 4:00 P.M. SINCE HE MUST LEAVE LONDON AT THAT TIME FOR DITCHLEY WHERE HE WILL BE CHAIRING A WEEKEND CONFERENCE.

3. FYI: THE LONG-STANDING FEUD BETWEEN THATCHER AND HEATH HAS INTENSIFIED IN RECENT WEEKS WITH THE PRESS TRUMPETING SPECULATION THAT HE WILL RALLY TORY OPPOSITION TO PARTY LEADERSHIP ON THE ISSUE OF DEVOLUTION.

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4. IN WEIGHING HOW TO RESPOND TO THESE REQUESTS, IT

SHOULD BE BORNE IN MIND THAT LABOR GOVERNMENT HAS ON
OCCASION EVIDENCED SOME UNHAPPINESS WHEN US OFFICIALS
HAVE MET WITH CONSERVATIVE LEADERS BEFORE MEETING WITH
GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

5. PLEASE ADVISE HOW EMBASSY SHOULD RESPOND TO REQUESTS
FROM THATCHER AND HEATH. ARMSTRONG

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NNN

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